

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A level wind mechanism for a fishing reel configured to guide fishing line onto a spool while moving the fishing line in a direction parallel to a rotational axis of the spool, said level wind mechanism comprising:

a spiral shaft having spiral grooves in an outer peripheral surface thereof, said spiral shaft extending in a direction parallel to the rotational axis of the spool and being rotatively supported by a reel unit adjacent to the spool;

a fishing line guide portion being configured to move reciprocally along said spiral shaft in synchronization with rotation of the spool at least when the spool winds the fishing reel, said fishing line guide portion having

a main member,

an engagement member being provided on said main member and configured to engage said spiral shaft, and

a tubular member having a line guide hole through which the fishing line passes, said line guide hole being formed to taper toward a first side from which the fishing line is paid out; and

a guide member disposed extending in a direction along said spiral shaft to guide said fishing line guide portion in a direction along said spiral shaft.

2. The level wind mechanism according to claim 1, wherein

said line guide hole is tapered such that its width in a direction parallel to said spiral shaft is smaller on the first side.

3. The level wind mechanism according to claim 1, wherein  
said line guide hole is tapered such that its upper inner surface is slanted at a  
greater angle of inclination than its lower inner surface.
- 5 4. The level wind mechanism according to claim 1, wherein  
said line guide hole is circular in shape.
5. The level wind mechanism according to claim 4, wherein  
a ratio of a diameter of said line guide hole on the first side to a diameter of said  
10 line guide hole on a second side is greater than or equal to 0.2 and less than 0.8, the second  
side being an opposite side from the first side.
6. The level wind mechanism according to claim 4, wherein  
a ratio of a difference between a diameter of said line guide hole on the first side  
15 and a diameter of said line guide hole on the second side from to an axial length of said  
line guide hole is 0.4 or greater.
7. The level wind mechanism according to claim 1, wherein  
an inner peripheral surface of said line guide hole is at least partially adapted to be  
20 substantially parallel with an axial direction of a fishing rod.
8. The level wind mechanism according to claim 1, wherein  
said line guide hole is at least partially chamfered.

9. The level wind mechanism according to claim 1, wherein  
said main member has a screw hole formed therein, and  
said tubular member has an engagement portion, said tubular member being  
secured to said main member by a screw member engaging said engagement portion and  
5 said screw hole.

10. The level wind mechanism according to claim 3, wherein  
the lower inner peripheral surface of said line guide hole is at least partially  
adapted to be substantially parallel with an axial direction of a fishing rod.

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11. A dual bearing fishing reel comprising:  
a reel unit being adapted to be mounted to a fishing rod;  
a spool being rotatively attached to said reel unit, said spool being configured to  
have fishing line wound around an outer periphery thereof; and  
15 a level wind mechanism being configured to guide fishing line onto said spool  
while moving the fishing line in a direction parallel to a rotational axis of said spool, said  
level wind mechanism having

a spiral shaft having spiral grooves in an outer peripheral surface thereof,  
said spiral shaft extending in a direction parallel to said rotational  
20 axis of said spool and being rotatively supported by said reel unit  
on,  
a fishing line guide portion being configured to move reciprocally along  
said spiral shaft in synchronization with rotation of said spool at

least when said spool winds the fishing reel, said fishing line guide portion having

a main member,

an engagement member being provided on said main member

5 and configured to engage said spiral shaft, and

a tubular member having a line guide hole through which the

fishing line passes, said line guide hole being formed to

taper toward a first side from which the fishing line is

paid out, and

10 a guide member disposed extending in a direction along said spiral shaft to guide said fishing line guide portion in the direction along said spiral shaft.

12. The dual bearing fishing reel according to claim 11, wherein

15 said line guide hole is tapered such that its width in a direction parallel to said spiral shaft is smaller on the first side.

13. The dual bearing fishing reel according to claim 11, wherein

said line guide hole is tapered such that its upper inner surface is slanted at a

20 greater angle of inclination than its lower inner surface.

14. The dual bearing fishing reel according to claim 11, wherein

said line guide hole is circular in shape.

15. The dual bearing fishing reel according to claim 14, wherein  
a ratio of a diameter of said line guide hole on the first side to a diameter of said  
line guide hole on a second side is greater than or equal to 0.2 and less than 0.8, the second  
side being an opposite side from the first side.

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16. The dual bearing fishing reel according to claim 14, wherein  
a ratio of a difference between a diameter of said line guide hole on the first side  
and a diameter of said line guide hole on the second side from to an axial length of said  
line guide hole is 0.4 or greater.

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17. The dual bearing fishing reel according to claim 11, wherein  
an inner peripheral surface of said line guide hole is at least partially adapted to be  
substantially parallel with an axial direction of the fishing rod.

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18. The dual bearing fishing reel according to claim 11, wherein  
said line guide hole is at least partially chamfered.

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19. The dual bearing fishing reel according to claim 11, wherein  
said main member has a screw hole formed therein, and  
said tubular member has an engagement portion, said tubular member being  
secured to said main member by a screw member engaging said engagement portion and  
said screw hole.

20. The dual bearing fishing reel according to claim 11, wherein

the lower inner peripheral surface of said line guide hole is at least partially adapted to be substantially parallel with an axial direction of a fishing rod.